

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	Communist Student Activities in Valparaiso	DATE DISTR.	21 August 1953	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. During June 1953 the Communist students in Valparaiso, Chile, devoted a large part of their activities to publicizing the Fourth World Festival of Youth and Students in Bucharest. Every attempt was made to form a delegation of students representing each branch of the University of Valparaiso. Students were told that they could spend three to four months in Europe with all expenses paid, with the exception of their round-trip fare. A committee of Communist students under the direction of Carlos WILLIAMS, second-year Law School student, spoke to as many students as possible daily to interest them in attending this Communist-sponsored congress and provided a constant flow of pamphlets and literature on the congress.
2. In the Law School each political party was extended an invitation to send a representative to Bucharest. The invitation to name a delegate from the Partido Radical (PR) was given to Rafael AGUIRRE, head of the PR student group, who designated Homero CORSON. CORSON, a fourth-year student, is well known for his assisting the Communists in the Law School. Alfredo MUJICA, head of the National Falange student organization, named Patricio YANEZ, a student of journalism in the Pedagogical Institute (IP), to go to the congress. It was believed that two other Falange leaders would attend the Bucharest congress: Eugenio BALLESTEROS, Law School graduate and provincial president for Valparaiso of the National Falange, and Jose TOMAS Camus, Law School graduate employed as an attorney for the municipality of Valparaiso. The invitation to the Socialist Party was extended to Alfredo AZANCOT, party head, who named Hernan GONZALEZ, second-year student, and Augusto STEFFENS, fourth-year student, as an alternate. The Communist committee attempted without success to persuade the chief of the Conservative Party group in the University of Chile, German GAMONAL Rosales, to accept an invitation. Gonzalo FERNANDEZ Meriggio, Communist leader in the Law School, and Sergio VUSCOVIC, leader in the IP, spent a great deal of time trying to convince GAMONAL of the advantages of attending this congress.

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3. All of the above-named individuals, with the exception of GAMONAL, left for the congress; they went to Buenos Aires by train to embark on 10 July 1953 on an Italian vessel for Genoa, whence they will proceed to Bucharest. Maria Luisa GARCIA Tello, Communist student leader in the IP who is now working in a tourist agency in Genoa was designated as an official delegate. The Valparaiso student group will also attend the Third World Student Congress, scheduled to be held in Warsaw 27 August - 5 September 1953, after which they expect to make a trip to Moscow.
4. On 16 June a bitter fight took place between Communist and anti-Communist students over the naming of an official representative from the Federacion de Estudiantes de Chile en Valparaiso (FEChV) to the forthcoming Provincial Congress of the pro-peace movement in Valparaiso. This meeting took place at the headquarters of the Union de Profesores and resulted in a Communist victory. Those supporting the motion to name a delegate to this Communist-sponsored congress were Sergio VUSCOVIC, Rodrigo FERNANDEZ Meriggio, and Carlos WILLIAMS, all Communists, together with Humberto FUENTEALBA, Radical Party student leader. Those opposing were Luis Alberto REYES, president of the Confederacion Nacional de Estudiantes Universitarios (CNEU), Eugenio BALLESTEROS of the Law School, and German GAMONAL Rosales of the IP.
5. On 26 June the Communist student group in the Law School held a discussion meeting presided over by Ivan AUGER Labarca, second-year Law School student, resident of Calle Colon 2128. The group was addressed by Dr. Jaime BARRIOS Perez Cotapos, Valparaiso physician, who discussed his recent trip to the Vienna Peace Congress.
6. Julio MONTAINE, who operates a newsstand to sell Communist magazines and books, has opened a book shop called the Libreria Nueva Cultura. The shop contains a large stock of Communist books and literature, and students are able to buy books there for lower prices than elsewhere.

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